

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SOE-02 AF-10 ARA-10
CIAE-00 DODE-00 EA-10 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03
NASA-01 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01
DOE-11 CEQ-01 OES-07 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDE-00 /150 W
-----105877 141932Z /45

P 141801Z MAR 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7194
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 03967

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, CCD
SUBJECT: CCD: INFORMAL MEETINGS WITH THE PARTICIPATION
OF EXPERTS ON NEW MASS DESTRUCTION WEAPONS, MARCH 28-31

1. THE CCD HAS SCHEDULED INFORMAL MEETINGS, WITH THE
PARTICIPATION OF EXPERTS, ON NEW TYPES AND SYSTEMS OF
WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION (NEW MDW) DURING THE WEEK
MARCH 28-31. THIS WILL BE THE FIFTH TIME IN THE PAST TWO
YEARS THAT THE CCD HAS HELD INFORMAL MEETINGS ON THIS
SUBJECT. WHILE IN THE PAST THE SOVIETS HAVE TAKEN THE LEAD
ON THIS ISSUE AND USED THE INFORMAL MEETINGS TO TOUT THEIR
COMPREHENSIVE DRAFT TREATY, THIS YEAR WE ANTICIPATE THAT
THE SOVIETS AND THEIR SURROGATES WILL USE THE INFORMALS
ALSO TO CONTINUE, AND PERHAPS INTENSIFY, THEIR HARANGUE
AGAINST THE U.S. AND THE "NEUTRON BOMB."

2. IN LIGHT OF THE FOREGOING, THE QUESTION ARISES AS TO
WHETHER IT IS ADVISABLE FOR THE U.S. TO SEND AN EXPERT
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TO PARTICIPATE IN THE NEW MDW INFORMALS. GIVEN THE FACT
THAT NEW MDW IS A FAVORITE SOVIET THEME, IF THE U.S. DOES
NOT SEND AN EXPERT, THE SOVIETS ARE LIKELY TO PROTEST THAT
THE U.S. IS EVADING THE SUBJECT ON WHICH THERE IS A
BILATERAL WORKING GROUP. ADDITIONALLY, THE U.K., WHILE
NOT EAGER TO PROVIDE AN EXPERT FOR THE INFORMALS, FEELS
OBLIGATED TO DO SO BECAUSE OF ITS ROLE IN NEW MDW AT UN

THIS YEAR. THE U.K. MIGHT FEEL SOMEWHAT EXPOSED IN THE ABSENCE OF U.S. EXPERT PARTICIPATION. FOR THE U.S. NOT TO SEND AN EXPERT MIGHT BE ONE WAY TO underscore ITS REJECTION OF THE SOVIET "NEUTRON BOMB" PROPOSAL, AND REINFORCE THE U.S. POSITION THAT THE RB/ER WEAPON IS NOT A NEW MDW. HOWEVER, THE U.S. DELEGATION BELIEVES THAT, ON BALANCE, THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY OF EMPHASIZING THE U.S. POSITION WOULD BE TO HAVE AN EXPERT CAPABLE OF HANDLING WHAT IS LIKELY TO BE A POLITICALLY CONTENTIOUS SITUATION. U.S. EXPERT SHOULD BE KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT THE POLITICAL AND TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF THE ISSUE. THE TYPE OF INDIVIDUAL WE HAVE IN MIND IS GEORGE KISTIAKOWSKY, GEORGE RATHJENS (MIT), OR WOLFGANG PANOFSKY (STANFORD/ SLAC).

3. ACTION REQUESTED: REQUEST THAT AVAILABILITY OF SUGGESTED OR COMPARABLE CANDIDATES TO SERVE AS U.S. EXPERT BE EXPLORED AND THAT U.S. DEL BE INFORMED OF ARRANGEMENTS MADE. SORENSEN

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Message Attributes

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